



Food and Agriculture
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Antimicrobial Resistance Multi Partner Trust Fund

Ghana Implements a Mobile App for
on-farm Antimicrobials Use Monitoring
in Terrestrial Animals and Aquaculture.

Let's
Discuss
Success!

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Ghana is faced with the problem of lack of data on antimicrobial resistance/use in terrestrial animal and aquaculture. Leveraging on the AMR MPTF's theory of change goal of reduced levels of AMR and slower development of resistance, Ghana developed and implemented monitoring tools for antibiotic use in terrestrial animals and aquaculture to drive evidence based- policy development.

"Some time ago we piloted this program (manual paper-based data collection) but there were challenges of inadequate numbers of vet staff. So now we want the farmers to collect the data using technology and submit... then we can use the results to formulate good policies for antimicrobial resistance in Ghana." Dr Kofi Afakye, FAO.



Stakeholder workshops were held to identify and review existing tools for Antimicrobial Use (AMU) data collection for farms, hatcheries, and veterinary clinics. Suitable templates were developed and migrated into a mobile application for the AMU data collection. The simple to use, convenient app was pretested, and a wider stakeholder testing and validation process was carried out. A series of trainings were carried out, first for select farmers from each participating region of Ghana. These farmers were supported by respective veterinary offices to train other farm owners from seven regions across the country on how to use the mobile application for on farm data collection.



"We strongly believe that we helped in making sure that they (farmers) are thoroughly trained, well exposed with the use of the app so that proper information that will help us in planning in the area of Antimicrobial Resistance control will be well grounded and executed." Prof. Benjamin Emikpe, Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

"I am a farmer, a poultry farmer,me being a farmer for three years, I have no idea about antibiotics and resistance on animals and how it is being transferred from animals to human beings. This program has enlightened me on how to use these antibiotics and its appropriate use for us not to have its bad effects on animals and us human beings." Beneficiary, Emmanuel Tetteh, Poultry farmer.



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A total of 107 farms each with 2 – 28 workers from seven regions took part in the pilot AMU surveillance. A quarter of farm owners/focal persons were females with a mean age of 39.9 years. All participants had some formal education, with 75.7% of farm focal persons completing college or university and 16.8% completing a post graduate education.



"Basically, we are into tilapia and catfish hatching and we were invited to this wonderful program...., this would help in making our fish healthy and giving us wonderful profit, that is what we all look for. So, it has been of great benefit, this program, and we also wish to tell other famers of what we have learnt and see how best it can also help their farm." Beneficiary farmer, Lois Lartebea Lartey, aquaculture.

Data from this surveillance is shaping Ghana's understanding of antimicrobial use practices in farms and it will facilitate evidence-based policy decision to achieve the AMR MPTF's theory of change goal of reduced levels of AMR and slower development of resistance.

The capturing of data from this surveillance is a critical step towards strengthening AMU in Ghana. This is an important and key step towards strengthening the overall AMU surveillance in the country. The relatively high level of formal education of farmers played an important role in the success of the project. This story is a perfect example of how AMR MPTF Funds were used in a creative and innovative way in a low-income country to achieve impact.



Training of Trainer (TOT) in Kumasi



Participants at the Training of Trainers (TOT) in Kumasi



Post Training of Trainers (TOT), farmers led training in six regions of Ghana



Group session in Western Region



Group session in Northern Region



Group session in Bono Region



Group session in Central Region



Group session in Eastern Region



Group session in Ashanti Region

